

REMARKS

Status of the Application

Claims 2-6 and 21-34 are pending in the application and have been examined. Claims 3-6 and 22-30 are allowed and claims 21 and 31-34 contain allowable subject matter.

With this Amendment, Applicant amends claims 21, 25, 26, 29, and 31-34, and adds new claims 35-38. Applicant submits that the new and amended claims are fully supported by the disclosure. No new matter has been added.

After entry of this Amendment, claims 2-6 and 21-38 will be pending in the application.

Objections to the Drawings

The Examiner objects to FIGS. 7, 8, 10-16, and 18-23 as allegedly requiring the label "Prior Art."

Applicant has amended FIGS. 7, 8, 10-16, and 18-23 to include the label "Prior Art" and respectfully requests that this objection be withdrawn.

Objections to the Claims

Claim 2 is objected for use of the phrase "with respect to." Specifically, the Examiner alleges that the phrase does not convey the appropriate meaning to the claim. Applicant submits that amendments to claim 2 overcome this objection and respectfully requests that this objection be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections

Claims 21 and 31-34 - 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 21 and 31-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. Applicant respectfully submits that amendments to claims 21, 26, 29, and 31-34 overcome this rejection. Applicant respectfully requests that the 35 U.S.C. § 112 rejection of claims 21 and 31-34 be withdrawn.

Claim 2 - 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,369,656 to Denning *et al.* ("Denning"). Applicant traverses this rejection.

Denning does not disclose or suggest at least "a mechanism which compresses a larger instantaneous amplitude value and compresses to a lesser degree an instantaneous amplitude value which is smaller relative to said larger instantaneous amplitude value, when said instantaneous amplitude values are provided as inputs to said amplifier," as recited in claim 2.

The Examiner alleges that item C1 illustrated in Fig. 2 of Denning discloses the recited compression mechanism. Denning is directed to a resistive bias network for an RF amplifier. Applicant respectfully submits that item C1 disclosed by Denning is merely an RF coupling capacitor which isolates the input source from the bias network. As disclosed by Denning, a low impedance bias supply will tend to supply current to capacitor C1 as power increases, thereby producing gain expansion. See column 5, lines 43-46. Thus, C1 as disclosed by Denning does not provide a compression mechanism, as required by the claim.

In the Response to Arguments section of the Office Action, the Examiner notes that capacitor C1 of Dening acts as a blocking capacitor for DC or low-frequency signals, regardless of their amplitudes. Thus, the Examiner concedes that Dening does not disclose or suggest "a mechanism which compresses a larger instantaneous amplitude value and compresses to a lesser degree an instantaneous amplitude value which is smaller relative to said larger instantaneous amplitude value," as required by the claim, since acts as a blocking capacitor for DC or low-frequency signals, *regardless of their amplitudes*.

Accordingly, since Dening does not disclose or suggest all of the claimed features, claim 2 is not anticipated by Dening and is therefore patentable.

Claim 25 - 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claim 25 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Dening. Applicant reverses this rejection.

Claim 25 contains features similar to the features recited in claim 2 which, as explained above, are not disclosed or suggested by Dening. Accordingly, since Dening does not disclose or suggest at least "a mechanism which compresses a larger instantaneous amplitude value and compresses to a lesser degree an instantaneous amplitude value which is smaller relative to said larger instantaneous amplitude value, when said instantaneous amplitude values are provided as inputs to said at least one stage," as recited in claim 25, claim 25 is patentable over Dening for at least the reasons explained above.

New Claims

Applicant has added new claims 35-38. These new claims recite limitations previously recited in one of claims 21, 31 and 32. Accordingly, the subject matter of these new claims has already been searched by the Examiner. No new matter has been added.

Claim 35 is patentable at least by virtue of its dependence from one of claims 3 and 4. Claims 36 and 37 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependencies from one of claims 26 and 27. Claim 38 is patentable at least by virtue of its dependence from claim 29.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 3-6 and 22-30 are allowed. Applicant also thanks the Examiner for the indication that claims 21 and 31-34 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Applicant respectfully submits that amendments to claims 21 and 31-34 overcome the 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, rejection. Accordingly, claims 21 and 31-34 are patentable over the prior art.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Appln. No.: 10/585,206

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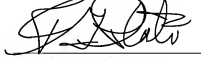
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Respectfully submitted,



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